

Appl. No. 10/614,017
Amendment dated Oct. 19, 2004
Reply to Office Action of May 19, 2004

REMARKS / ARGUMENTS

The Examiner rejected claim 1 under 35 USC 102 as being anticipated by Deising (US Patent 5,947,052). This rejection is overcome since it is believed that claim 1, as amended, is no longer anticipated by Deising. Deising does not disclose first and second intersecting apertures extending into a block portion in first and second non-aligned directions, a jaw portion adapted to engage the block portion at the second aperture, a plug member seated within the first aperture, and a fastener adapted to project along the second aperture and across the first aperture to mate with the plug member.

Regarding new claim 6, Deising does not disclose a fastener adapted to project through the block portion in a second direction orthogonally to the first direction of a first aperture.

Regarding new claim 8, Deising does not disclose a first aperture extending into a block portion in a first direction from the block portion's first face toward a second face, and a fastener adapted to project from a third face of the block portion across the first aperture and mate with the plug member.

Regarding new claim 11, Deising does not disclose an L-shaped jaw having a first arm with a jaw aperture adapted to engage the block member and a second arm adapted to engage an automobile member, nor a fastener for urging the first arm in a first direction into engagement with the block member and the second arm in a second direction toward the block member into clamping engagement with the automobile member.

Regarding new claim 16, Deising does not disclose a plug member having a shaft portion with an elongate slot and adapted to extend through a hole in an accessory and be received within an aperture in the block portion, nor a fastener for engaging such slot.

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In view of the above, it is submitted that the above base claims, including the new dependent claims 2-5, 7, 9, 10, 12-15 and 17-20, are in condition for allowance. Reconsideration of the rejection is requested. Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued for this application.

Respectfully submitted,



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